

**News Release** 

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Public invited to 2019 Outstanding Older Americans events in May

The Agency on Elderly Affairs will celebrate Older Americans Month in May by hosting two events to honor Kaua'i's kupuna. The annual Older Americans Recognition Ceremony will be held on May 3, and a festival is set for May 10.

"Communities that encourage the contributions of Na Kupuna are stronger. By engaging and supporting our kupuna, we recognize that they play a key role in the vitality of our neighborhoods, networks, and lives," said Kealoha Takahashi, Executive for the Agency of Elderly Affairs.

The recognition ceremony will take place on May 3 at 9 a.m. at the Kaua'i Beach Resort with a luncheon to follow. The public is invited to attend the ceremony. Those who wish to stay for lunch will need to purchase a ticket at \$27 per person. Please call 241-4470. Nineteen Kupuna who will be recognized as Kaua'i's Outstanding Older Americans will be honored at the event.

The Older Americans Month Festival will be held on May 10 at the Kukui Grove Center Food Court from 9 a.m. to noon. The event will feature organizations that offer opportunities for kupuna to thrive and remain independent and agencies who offer assistance. Fun entertainment by kupuna, demonstrations, and door prizes will round out the festivities.

If you need an ASL interpreter, materials in an alternate format or other auxiliary aid support, or an interpreter for a language other than English, please contact the Agency on Elderly Affairs at 241-4470 or via email, elderlyaffairs@kauai.gov, prior to the event.



Pictured are the 19 recipients of the Outstanding Older Americans award. Front Row from right to left are Gary Pacheco, Phyllis Meighen, Magdalen "Maggie" Mission, Estelita Manglinong, Maryanne Kusaka, Dawn Kawahara, Jean Dobashi, Catherine Butler, Kay Naito, Elyse Litvack. Back Row from left to right are Guy Ambrose, Neil Brosnahan, Carl Todd, Manuel Pascua, Richard "Dick" Ueoka, Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami, Juliet "Julie" Souza, Wayne Medeiros, Eric Nordmeier. Sadly, we honor Annie Kanahele who passed away a few days prior to this photo.

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